



Mission:

A space for residents of Wellington North to grow food, learn and connect through gardening

Mount Forest Community Garden Looking Ahead

In early 2023 we took a deep breath, and poured our strength and energy into designing and building our community garden. What followed was a phenomenal response from our community to engage in every step of growth, which we are proud to share in the attached illustration. As we prepare for a bountiful harvest and reflect on how many have experienced the benefits of our efforts, we also begin to look ahead.

It will soon be time to wind down, place a blanket on the garden and let the soil rest for the winter.

That doesn't mean that the garden committee will be fully at rest though. They will spend the off-season months in preparation for next year; planning our next steps for the garden, for activities and opportunities to educate and involve gardeners, volunteers and others. Our goal is to lay a good foundation for 2024 through these activities and maintain momentum for this valuable community project until we plant the first seed next spring.

"You've Come a Long Way Baby!"



No-No's of Composting

This is one of our 3-stage composting bins. Each of the 3 compost bins has a specific purpose in the rotation. The signs above each one indicates the stage of that particular bin.

Blighted tomatoes have been put into a resting bin, despite the instructions that were indicated on the sign. This can compromise the composting process.

Please follow the directions provided and only put appropriate materials in the compost bins in order that the facilities can function according to their intended purpose.





*Who's Who in the Garden - Volunteers:
Mike and Nola Marion*

Recently retired and new to the area, the call to participate in a planning meeting for a proposed Mount Forest Community Garden got our attention. It seemed the perfect way to get involved, meet new people and be of service. The initial community meeting did not disappoint; it was clear that there was a shared interest in creating a space for people to gather and learn to grow food.

A shared vision for the garden was generated which guided the design of a community garden that proved to be beautiful, functional and accessible by all. Essentially a barren, unused patch of land was transformed into an area that grows food and community. The Mount Forest Community Garden has a positive energy that is welcoming to all who visit, whether as a gardener, volunteer or someone looking for a place to relax and eat lunch.

Every visit to this garden lifts our spirits and gives us more back than we put into it. We see planters and volunteers working together, 'Weeding Parties' taking care of the community garden spaces, and biweekly harvesting for our food banks. People are being supported in the growing of their own food at a time when food prices are quite high and we all benefit from the sharing of wisdom from our more experienced gardeners. Visitors also drop by to enjoy this new thing they keep hearing about.

This Community Garden is all about the well-being of our community. It provides a measure of food security and a safe space for people to gather. It allows for the transfer of knowledge about how to grow and harvest. It also reminds us how much produce can come from a small garden, and this has led to people sharing surplus food with others. It is a great place to connect, we look forward to upcoming opportunities for food education and ways to be of service to our community.

***"Setting the Table -
Food Equity & Community Resilience Series
Wednesday, September 20, 2023***

Our Food Future sponsored a celebration of the achievements of the Mount Forest Community Garden Committee, Volunteers, Gardeners, Community Supporters and Sponsors.

A free community meal was served along with tours of the garden. A special treat; the soups that were served were prepared using produce harvested from the garden. Check out some pictures of the evening.



Mount Forest Community Garden Contacts:

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Financial Planters Committee
MountForestFinancialPlanters@gmail.com

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You can reach

Joe - Garden Manager
by texting or calling:

519-604-8425

(please leave a message)

He will respond to your request when he is available